California Board of Registered Nursing

2009-2010 Annual School Report

Data Summary and Historical Trend Analysis

A Presentation of Pre-Licensure Nursing Education Programs in California

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PREFACE

Nursing Education Survey Background

Development of the 2009-2010 Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) School Survey was the work of the Board's Education Advisory Committee (EAC), which consists of nursing education stakeholders from across California. A list of the EAC members is included in the Appendices. The University of California, San Francisco was commissioned by the BRN to develop the online survey instrument, administer the survey, and report data collected from the survey.

Funding for this project was provided by the California Board of Registered Nursing.

Organization of Report

The survey collects data about nursing programs and their students and faculty from August 1 through July 31. Annual data presented in this report represent August 1, 2009 through July 31, 2010. Demographic information and census data were requested for October 15, 2010.

Data from pre- and post-licensure nursing education programs are presented in separate reports and will be available on the BRN website. Data are presented in aggregate form and describe overall trends in the areas and over the times specified and, therefore, may not be applicable to individual nursing education programs.

Statistics for enrollments and completions represent two separate student populations. Therefore, it is not possible to directly compare enrollment and completion data.

Data collected for the first time on 2009-2010 survey are identified by the symbol (‡). The reliability of these new data will be reviewed and considered for continued inclusion in future surveys.

Availability of Data

The BRN Annual School Survey was designed to meet the data needs of the BRN as well as other interested organizations and agencies. A database with aggregate data derived from the 2000-2001 through 2009-2010 BRN School Surveys will be available for public access on the BRN website. Parties interested in accessing data not available on the website should contact the BRN.

The BRN acknowledges that survey respondents may not have had ready access to some of the data that were being requested. To address this issue, a member of the EAC developed a computer program for tracking most of the required data. The computer tracking program was distributed to nursing programs in the fall of 2006. Nursing programs that do not have this program may contact the BRN.

Value of the Survey

This survey has been developed to support nursing, nursing education and workforce planning in California. The Board of Registered Nursing believes that the results of this survey will provide data-driven evidence to influence policy at the local, state, federal and institutional levels.

The BRN extends appreciation to the Education Advisory Committee and all survey respondents. Your participation has been vital to the success of this project.

Survey Participation

All California nursing education programs were invited to participate in the survey. All of the 139 pre-licensure programs approved by the BRN to enroll students in 2009-2010 responded to the survey. A list of nursing programs that responded to the survey is provided in the Appendix.

Program Type	# Programs Responded	Total # Programs	Response Rate
ADN	77	77	100%
LVN to ADN	9	9	100%
BSN	37	37	100%
ELM	16	16	100%
Sum of Pre-Licensure Programs*	139	139	100%

^{*}Since some nursing schools admit students in more than one program, the number of nursing programs is greater than the number of nursing schools (n=125) in the state.

DATA SUMMARY AND HISTORICAL TREND ANALYSIS

This analysis presents pre-licensure program data from the 2009-2010 BRN School Survey in comparison with data from previous years of the survey. Data items addressed include the number of nursing programs, enrollments, completions, retention rates, student and faculty census data, the use of clinical simulation by nursing programs, and clinical space and practice restrictions.

Trends in Pre-Licensure Nursing Programs

Number of Nursing Programs

In 2009-2010, California had a total of 139 pre-licensure nursing programs. This represents a net increase of one nursing program since 2008-2009 (one new BSN program). Most pre-licensure nursing programs in California are public. However, the share of public programs has decreased from a high of 85.6% (n=83) of pre-licensure nursing programs in 2000-2001 to its current share of 75.5% (n=105) in 2009-2010. Since 2006-2007, private schools have accounted for all new program growth.

Number of Nursing Programs

	Academic Year										
	2000- 2001	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003- 2004	2004- 2005	2005- 2006	2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009	2009- 2010	
Total # Nursing Programs	97	100	101	104	109	117	130	132	138	139	
ADN Programs	71	72	73	73	76	77	82	84	86	86	
BSN Programs	22	23	23	23	24	26	32	32	36	37	
ELM Programs	4	5	5	8	9	14	16	16	16	16	
Public Programs	83	85	86	87	90	96	105	105	105	105	
Private Programs	14	15	15	17	19	21	25	27	33	34	

Admission Spaces and New Student Enrollments

In 2009-2010, programs reported almost the same number of admission spaces (n=12,797) available for new student enrollments as in 2008-2009 (n=12,812). These spaces were filled with a total of 14,228 students, which, again, represents approximately the same level of new student enrollment compared with the previous year (n=13,988). 47.5% of pre-licensure programs (n=66) reported that they filled more admission spaces than were available. The most frequently reported reasons for doing so were to account for attrition and to make use of grant or donor funding.[‡]

[‡] Data were collected for the first time in the 2009-2010 survey.

Availability and Utilization of Admission Spaces

	Academic Year										
	2000- 2001	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003- 2004	2004- 2005	2005- 2006	2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009	2009- 2010	
Spaces Available	6,610	6,719	7,601	7,797	9,026	10,523	11,475	11,773	12,812	12,797	
New Student Enrollments	6,128	6,422	7,457	7,825	8,926	11,131	12,709	12,961	13,988	14,228	
% Spaces Filled	92.7%	95.6%	98.1%	100.4%	98.9%	105.8%	110.8%	110.1%	109.2%	111.2%	

Nursing programs continue to receive more applications requesting entrance into their programs than can be accommodated. There was a 12.6% (n=4,594) increase in the number of qualified applications nursing schools received between 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. In 2009-2010, 65.4% (n=26,877) of qualified applications to California nursing education programs were not accepted for admission. Since these data represent applications and an individual can apply to multiple nursing programs, the number of applications is likely greater than the number of individuals applying for admission to nursing programs in California.

Student Admission Applications*

	Academic Year											
	2000- 2001	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003- 2004	2004- 2005	2005- 2006	2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009	2009- 2010		
Qualified Applications	10,021	10,362	13,926	17,887	20,405	28,410	28,506	33,746	36,511	41,105		
ADN	6,924	7,554	9,531	12,585	14,615	19,724	19,559	25,021	26,185	28,555		
BSN	2,635	2,413	3,301	3,964	4,914	7,391	7,004	7,187	8,142	10,151		
ELM	462	395	1,094	1,338	876	1,295	1,943	1,538	2,184	2,399		
% Qualified Applications Not Accepted	38.8%	38.0%	46.5%	56.3%	56.3%	60.8%	55.4%	61.0%	61.7%	65.4%		

^{*}Since these data represent applications rather than individuals, the increase in qualified applications may not represent an equal growth in the number of individuals applying to nursing school.

Since 2000-2001, new student enrollments have more than doubled (n=8,100). However, the rate of new student enrollment growth has been slowing in recent years. The number of students who enrolled in a nursing program in California increased very slightly by 1.7% (n=240), from 13,988 in 2008-2009 to 14,228 in 2009-2010. New student enrollments in ADN programs fell 8.7% (n=818), but increased by 26.7% in BSN programs (n=1,021). In addition, new student enrollments in public programs fell by 5.8% (n=593), but increased 22.1% in private programs (n=833).

New Student Enrollment by Program Type

	Academic Year										
	2000- 2001	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003- 2004	2004- 2005	2005- 2006	2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009	2009- 2010	
New Student Enrollment	6,128	6,422	7,457	7,825	8,926	11,131	12,709	12,961	13,988	14,228	
ADN	4,236	4,558	5,316	5,547	6,160	7,778	8,899	8,847	9,412	8,594	
BSN	1,732	1,677	1,903	1,960	2,371	2,709	3,110	3,404	3,821	4,842	
ELM	160	187	238	318	395	644	700	710	755	792	
Private	951	884	980	1,150	1,614	2,024	2,384	2,704	3,774	4,607	
Public	5,177	5,538	6,477	6,675	7,312	9,107	10,325	10,257	10,214	9,621	

Student Completions

RN programs continue to graduate more students every year. However, as with new student enrollments, the rate of increase is slowing down. In 2009-2010, the number of students who completed a nursing program in California increased by 8.9% (n=942) over the previous year. This is compared with a 10.3% (n=990) increase in new graduates between 2007-2008 and 2008-2009, and a 15.2% (n=1,263) increase between 2006-2007 and 2007-2008. 66.8% of students completing a nursing program do so through an ADN program.

Student Completions

	Academic Year										
	2000- 2001	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003- 2004	2004- 2005	2005- 2006	2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009	2009- 2010	
Student Completions	5,178	5,346	5,623	6,158	6,677	7,528	8,317	9,580	10,570	11,512	
ADN	3,799	3,826	4,027	4,488	4,769	5,351	5,885	6,527	7,119	7,690	
BSN	1,277	1,394	1,412	1,479	1,664	1,861	2,074	2,481	2,788	3,157	
ELM	102	126	184	191	244	316	358	572	663	665	

Retention and Attrition Rates

Of the 10,180 students scheduled to complete a nursing program in the 2009-2010 academic year, 77.1% (n=7,845) completed the program on-time, 9.1% (n=925) are still enrolled in the program, and 13.9% (n=1,410) dropped out or were disqualified from the program. The retention rate has steadily increased over the past decade, from a low of 66.2% in 2000-2001 to the current high of 77.1% in 2009-2010.

Student Retention and Attrition

					Acade	emic Yea	r			
	2000- 2001	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003- 2004	2004- 2005	2005- 2006	2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009	2009- 2010
Students Scheduled to Complete the Program	8,478	6,806	8,208	8,151	8,507	8,208	8,852	9,769	10,630	10,180
Completed On Time	5,610	4,553	5,621	5,831	6,055	6,047	6,437	7,254	7,990	7,845
Still Enrolled	1,372	1,184	1,314	1,082	710	849	996	950	1,078	925
Attrition	1,496	1,069	1,273	1,238	1,742	1,312	1,419	1,565	1,562	1,410
Completed Late [‡]										615
Retention Rate*	66.2%	66.9%	68.5%	71.5%	71.2%	73.7%	72.7%	74.3%	75.2%	77.1%
Attrition Rate	17.6%	15.7%	15.5%	15.2%	20.5%	16.0%	16.0%	16.0%	14.7%	13.9%
% Still Enrolled	16.2%	17.4%	16.0%	13.3%	8.3%	10.3%	11.3%	9.7%	10.1%	9.1%

^{*}Retention rate = (students who completed the program on-time) / (students scheduled to complete the program)

[‡] Data were collected for the first time in the 2009-2010 survey. These completions are not included in the calculation of either the retention or attrition rates.

Attrition rates vary by program type. In 2009-2010, attrition rates in ADN and BSN programs dropped slightly, while the attrition rate increased in ELM programs from 5.2% to 8.3%. Attrition rates are higher in public nursing programs than in private programs, 15.1% compared to 8.9%; however, there was a decline in attrition rates in both public and private nursing programs this year.

Attrition Rates by Program Type

	Academic Year										
Program Type	2000- 2001	2001- 2002	2002- 2003	2003- 2004	2004- 2005	2005- 2006	2006- 2007	2007- 2008	2008- 2009	2009- 2010	
ADN	21.5%	16.9%	19.1%	17.0%	23.7%	18.3%	19.0%	19.0%	17.6%	16.6%	
BSN	9.0%	14.0%	8.1%	10.8%	11.0%	10.5%	8.7%	8.6%	9.0%	8.1%	
ELM	3.3%	1.2%	3.2%	4.7%	14.3%	5.0%	7.2%	5.6%	5.2%	8.3%	
Private	11.7%	12.0%	9.6%	10.1%	15.9%	14.6%	7.9%	9.2%	10.0%	8.9%	
Public	18.8%	16.5%	16.7%	15.9%	21.2%	16.2%	17.7%	17.5%	16.0%	15.1%	

Retention and attrition rates have fluctuated over the nine-year period documented in the above tables. Changes to the survey that occurred between 2003-2004 and 2005-2006 may have affected the comparability of these data over time.

Student Census Data

The total number of students enrolled in California nursing programs on October 15, 2010 increased very slightly by comparison with the previous year, from 25,285 to 25,719. This increase is the result of more BSN students, whose total numbers grew by 15.2% (n=1,349) between 2009 and 2010. Of the total student body in California's pre-license nursing programs, 54.5% (n=14,011) were in ADN programs, 39.8% (n=10,242) in BSN programs, and 5.7% (n=1,466) in ELM programs.

Student Census Data*

	=									
	Year									
Program Type	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
ADN Program	8,236	8,999	9,547	9,939	11,117	12,632	14,191	14,304	14,987	14,011
BSN Program		4,235	4,254	5,279	5,669	6,285	6,799	7,956	8,893	10,242
ELM Program		190	148	368	804	659	896	1,290	1,405	1,466
Total Nursing Students	12,661	13,401	15,194	16,412	18,061	20,327	22,524	23,550	25,285	25,719

^{*}Census data represent the number of students on October 15th of the given year. Blank cells indicated that the applicable information was not requested in the given year.

Clinical Simulation in Nursing Education

Between 8/1/09 and 7/31/10, 116 of California's 125 nursing schools reported using clinical simulation¹. Of the remaining nine schools not using clinical simulations, one began using clinical simulation since 7/31/10. An additional six schools reported plans to start using simulation in the next year.

The most frequently reported reasons for why schools used a clinical simulation center in 2009-2010 were to provide clinical experience not available in a clinical setting, to standardize clinical experiences, and to check clinical competencies. Of the 116 schools that used clinical simulation centers in 2009-2010, 72.4% (n=84) plan to expand the center.

Reasons for Using a Clinical Simulation Center*	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
To provide clinical experience not available in a clinical setting	73.5%	70.3%	85.1%
To standardize clinical experiences	80.9%	75.7%	82.5%
To check clinical competencies	69.1%	73.9%	80.7%
To make up for clinical experiences	55.9%	56.8%	62.2%
To increase capacity in your nursing program	22.1%	14.4%	13.8%
Number of schools that use a clinical simulation center	68	111	116

^{*}These data were collected for the first time in 2006-2007. However, changes in these questions for the 2007-2008 administration of the survey and lack of confidence in the reliability of the 2006-2007 data prevent comparability of the data. Therefore, data prior to 2007-2008 are not shown.

Clinical Space & Clinical Practice Restrictions[‡]

77 programs reported being denied access to clinical placement sites in 2009-2010 that had been available during the 2008-2009 academic year, affecting a total of 2,312 students. Overall, the most frequently reported reasons for why programs were denied clinical space were competition for space arising from an increase in the number of nursing students in the region, and being displaced by another program.

		Pro	gram Typ	ре	
	ADN	LVN to ADN	BSN	ELM	Total
Reasons for Clinical Space Being Unavailable	%	%	%	%	%
Competition for Clinical Space due to Increase in Number of Nursing Students in Region	62.2%	80.0%	77.8%	100%	71.4%
Displaced by Another Program	57.8%	80.0%	61.1%	77.8%	62.3%
Staff Nurse Overload	44.4%	60.0%	72.2%	66.7%	54.5%
Clinical Facility Seeking Magnet Status	44.4%	80.0%	16.7%	11.1%	36.4%
Decrease in Patient Census	31.1%	40.0%	55.6%	11.1%	35.1%
Nursing Residency Programs	26.7%	40.0%	33.3%	22.2%	28.6%
No Longer Accepting ADN Students	37.8%	60.0%	0.0%	0.0%	26.0%
Other	24.4%	20.0%	11.1%	22.2%	20.8%
Number of programs	45	5	18	9	77

¹ Clinical simulation provides a simulated real-time nursing care experience using clinical scenarios and low to hi-fidelity mannequins, which allow students to integrate, apply, and refine specific skills and abilities that are based on theoretical concepts and scientific knowledge. It may include videotaping, de-briefing and dialogue as part of the learning process.

[‡] Data were collected for the first time in the 2009-2010 survey.

94 schools reported that pre-licensure students in their programs had encountered restrictions to clinical practice imposed on them by clinical facilities. The most common types of restricted access students faced were to the clinical site itself, due to a visit from the Joint Commission or another accrediting agency, access to electronic medical records, and bar coding medication administration. Schools reported that it was uncommon to have students face restrictions on direct communication with health care team members, access to alternative settings due to liability issues, and IV medication administration.

T (D) A		Percent	age of Scho	ools (%)		#
Type of Restricted Access	Very Uncommon	Uncommon	Common	Very Common	N/A	Schools
Bar coding medication administration	8.5%	17.0%	39.4%	30.9%	4.3%	94
Electronic Medical Records	7.5%	19.2%	39.4%	30.9%	3.2%	94
Glucometers	21.1%	34.4%	18.9%	20.0%	5.6%	90
Automated medical supply cabinets	10.8%	21.5%	30.0%	23.7%	16.1%	93
IV medication administration	20.7%	44.6%	16.3%	12.0%	6.5%	92
Clinical site due to visit from accrediting agency (Joint Commission)	6.5%	22.8%	34.8%	34.8%	1.1%	92
Direct communication with health team	36.6%	45.2%	6.5%	5.4%	6.5%	93
Alternative setting due to liability	28.6%	30.8%	13.2%	7.7%	19.8%	91

Faculty Census Data

The total number of nursing faculty increased by 3.1% (n=111) over the last year. On October 15, 2010, there were 3,741 total nursing faculty. Of these faculty, 38.4% (n=1,435) were full-time and 61.6% (n=2,306) were part-time.

The need for faculty continues to outpace the number of active faculty. On October 15, 2010, there were 196 vacant faculty positions. These vacancies represent a 5.0% faculty vacancy rate.

Faculty Census Data¹

		Year								
	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005*2	2006*	2007*	2008	2009	2010
Total Faculty	1,840	1,957	2,031	2,207	2,432	2,723	3,282	3,471	3,630	3,741
Full-time	1,047	1,090	1,087	1,061	930	1,102	1,374	1,402	1,453	1,435
Part-time	793	867	944	1,146	959	1,619	1,896	2,069	2,177	2,306
Vacancy Rate**		4.1%	5.9%	3.7%	6.0%	6.6%	5.9%	4.7%	4.7%	5.0%
Vacancies		83	128	84	154	193	206	172	181	196

^{*}The sum of full- and part-time faculty did not equal the total faculty reported in these years.

^{**}Vacancy rate = number of vacancies/(total faculty + number of vacancies)

^{1 -} Census data represent the number of faculty on October 15th of the given year.

^{2 -} Faculty vacancies were estimated based on the vacant FTEs reported.

Summary

Over the past decade, the number of California pre-licensure nursing programs has grown by 43.3%, from 97 programs in 2000-2001 to 139 programs in 2009-2010. During this period new student enrollments have more than doubled. California's pre-licensure nursing programs enrolled over 14,000 new students in 2009-2010. Although both admission spaces and new student enrollments have grown, data indicate that the rate of enrollment growth has stabilized. For the past four years enrollment growth has been slowly declining. Enrollment growth peaked at 24.7% in 2005-2006 and has been followed by four consecutive years of slower growth: 14.2% in 2006-2007, 2.0% in 2007-2008, 7.9% in 2008-2009 and 1.7% growth in 2009-2010. This stabilization of enrollment growth since 2005-2006 most likely signifies a new trend in nursing program expansion in California.

In 2009-2010, pre-licensure RN programs reported 11,512 completions, more than double the 5,178 completions reported in 2000-2001. Despite the overall increase in graduates and the highest statewide retention rate (77.1%) in ten years, the new graduate growth rate in 2009-2010 was much smaller by comparison with previous years; 10.5% in 2006-2007, 15.2% in 2007-2008, 10.3% in 2008-2009 and 8.9% in 2009-2010. As the rate of enrollment growth stabilizes and if the statewide retention rate remains at current levels, it is likely that the number of graduates from California nursing programs will also stabilize.

Clinical simulation has become widespread in nursing education. It is seen by schools as an important tool for providing clinical experiences that are otherwise not available to students, and for standardizing students' clinical experiences and monitoring clinical competencies. The importance of clinical simulation is underscored by data collected for the first time in the 2009-2010 survey, which show that 55% of programs (n=77) were denied access to clinical placement sites that were previously available to them. In addition, 75% of schools (n=94) reported that their students had faced restrictions to specific types of clinical practice during the 2009-2010 academic year.

Expansion in RN education has required nursing programs to hire more faculty to teach the growing number of students. Although the number of nursing faculty has almost doubled in the past ten years, from 1,840 in 2001 to 3,741 in 2010, faculty hires have not kept pace with the growth in California pre-licensure nursing programs. In 2009-2010, 196 faculty vacancies were reported, representing a faculty vacancy rate of 5.0%, which is slightly higher than in 2008-2009 (4.7%). Although this is one of the lowest reported rates over the past six years, a shortage of faculty remains one of the key obstacles to RN program expansion.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A – List of Survey Respondents by Degree Program

ADN Programs (77)

American River College Antelope Valley College Bakersfield College Butte Community College

Cabrillo College Cerritos College Chabot College Chaffey College Citrus College

City College of San Francisco

College of Marin
College of San Mateo
College of the Canyons
College of the Desert
College of the Redwoods
College of the Sequoias
Contra Costa College
Copper Mountain College

Cuesta College Cypress College De Anza College

East Los Angeles College

El Camino College - Compton Education Center

El Camino College Everest College

Evergreen Valley College Fresno City College

Glendale Community College

Golden West College Grossmont College Hartnell College Imperial Valley College

Kaplan College (formerly Maric College)

Long Beach City College Los Angeles City College

Los Angeles County College of Nursing & Allied

Health

Los Angeles Harbor College Los Angeles Pierce College Los Angeles Southwest College Los Angeles Trade-Tech College Los Angeles Valley College Los Medanos College Mendocino College

Merced College Merritt College

Mira Costa College (formerly LVN to ADN)

Modesto Junior College Monterey Peninsula College

Moorpark College

Mount Saint Mary's College Mount San Antonio College Mount San Jacinto College Napa Valley College Ohlone College Pacific Union College Palomar College

Pasadena City College Rio Hondo College

Riverside Community College Sacramento City College Saddleback College

San Bernardino Valley College San Diego City College San Joaquin Delta College San Joaquin Valley College

Santa Ana College

Santa Barbara City College Santa Monica College Santa Rosa Junior College

Shasta College Sierra College

Solano Community College Southwestern College

Ventura College Victor Valley College

West Hills College Lemoore

Yuba College

LVN to ADN Programs Only (9)

Allan Hancock College Carrington College (formerly Western Career College – Sacramento) College of the Siskiyous Gavilan College Mission College Unitek College West Coast University – Inland Empire West Coast University – Los Angeles West Coast University – Orange

BSN Programs (37)

American University of Health Sciences Azusa Pacific University Biola University California Baptist University Concordia University Irvine **CSU** Bakersfield **CSU Channel Islands CSU Chico CSU East Bay** CSU Fresno **CSU Fullerton** CSU Long Beach **CSU** Los Angeles **CSU Northridge** CSU Sacramento CSU San Bernardino

Humboldt State University Loma Linda University Mount Saint Mary's College **National University** Point Loma Nazarene University Samuel Merritt University San Diego State University San Francisco State University San Jose State University Sonoma State University University of California Irvine University of California Los Angeles University of Phoenix - Northern California University of San Francisco West Coast University - Inland Empire * West Coast University - Los Angeles West Coast University - Orange County Western Governors University

ELM Programs (16)

Azusa Pacific University

CSU San Marcos

CSU Stanislaus

California Baptist University
CSU Dominguez Hills
CSU Fresno
CSU Fullerton
CSU Long Beach
CSU Los Angeles
United States University
(formerly InterAmerican College)

Dominican University of California

Samuel Merritt University
San Francisco State University
Sonoma State University
University of California Los Angeles
University of California San Francisco
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
Western University of Health Sciences

^{* -} New programs in 2009-2010

APPENDIX B – BRN Education Advisory Committee Members

BRN Education Advisory Committee Members

<u>Members</u> <u>Organization</u>

Loucine Huckabay, Chair California State University, Long Beach

Sue Albert College of the Canyons
Audrey Berman Samuel Merritt University
Liz Close Sonoma State University
Patricia Girczyc College of the Redwoods
Marilyn Herrmann Loma Linda University

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